

Minutes of an Executive Committee Conference Call
of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees
Held on Friday, July 1, 2005

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

An Executive Committee Conference Call of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees was held on Friday, July 1, 2005 in the Timme Center for Student Services, room 301C on the FSU campus, Big Rapids, Michigan. Chair Gregory L. Patera called the meeting to order via teleconference at 10:32 a.m. In addition to Chair Patera, the following Trustees were present via teleconference: Trustees Olga G. Dazzo and R. Thomas Cook. Others present included President David L. Eisler, Vice President Richard P. Duffett; and Recording Secretary to the Board Karen K. Paine.

2. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Patera's invitation to address the Committee.

3a. Exception to Board-Approved Personnel Policies

President Eisler opened discussion regarding the exception to Board-approved Personnel Policies. He reported that this is necessary to allow for Miles Postema to be eligible for the position of General Counsel, a non-Vice Presidential position. He reported that he does not anticipate making another appointment at the Vice Presidential level, and noted that the duties relative to the Friends of Ferris will go back to Vice President Duffett, and that he would be performing the duties relative to governmental relations during the short term. He will hire someone at less than the Vice Presidential level to handle those responsibilities.

It was then moved by Trustee Dazzo, supported by Trustee Cook, and unanimously carried that the Committee grant interim approval of the following Resolution, for full Board approval on July 15, 2005:

“WHEREAS, the position of Vice President for Governmental Relations and General Counsel has recently been vacated due to the resignation of Scott Hill-Kennedy; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration has determined to effect a reorganization separating the duties previously associated with this position and to separately fill the position of General Counsel at a non-vice presidential level; and,

WHEREAS, the Board-approved Personnel policies are set forth in Part 6 of the FSU Code of Rules, Bylaws and Policies (the “Code”); and,

WHEREAS, the Administration has established policies and procedures setting forth a hiring process that is consistent with Part 6 of the Code; and,

WHEREAS, although a well defined hiring process is desirable in order to ensure that all potential candidates are afforded an equal opportunity to obtain employment and advance their careers with the University, there are occasions in which making an exception to the usual hiring process would be of considerable benefit to the University; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Board-approved Personnel policies, Section 6-303(2), Promotions/Job Transfers, an external search is required in order for an employee to be eligible for vice presidential positions; and,

WHEREAS, the Administration is seeking Board approval of an exception to the hiring process implemented pursuant to Part 6 of the Code so as to allow for the promotion and appointment of a qualified internal candidate for the position of General Counsel, noting in this regard the requirements of Board-approved Personnel policies, Section 6-306(3), Exceptions and that the General Counsel's position has previously been a part of a combined position at the vice-presidential level.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves a reorganization eliminating the position of Vice President for Governmental Relations and General Counsel and separating the duties previously associated with that position; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees hereby approves an exception to the hiring process implemented pursuant to Part 6 of the Code so as to allow for the promotion and appointment by President David Eisler of a qualified internal candidate for the position of General Counsel.”

In addition, the Committee responded favorably to the President providing a salary offer of \$120,000 for the General Counsel's position.

4a. Board Meetings Schedule for 2005-2006

President Eisler provided an overview of the Draft A and Draft B calendars. He noted that these calendars were provided for input only and are ready for additional review and comment at the July 15 Annual Board Meeting.

4b. International Affairs Reorganization

Vice President Harris provided an overview of his memo regarding the International Affairs Reorganization. A copy of this memo is included in the official file for this meeting. Chair Patera indicated that the proposal was outlined very well, and noted that it appears to be an improvement to the program. President Eisler provided

additional information regarding why this item was brought forward, as part of the enhancement of the International program. He indicated that one position would be eliminated, not for budget reasons, but due to the fact that the Study Abroad duties will be moved to the Extended Learning office.

4c. President's Quarterly Expense Report

No additional information was requested regarding the President's Quarterly Expense Report. The Trustees indicated that this format is sufficient, and there were no questions regarding its content.

4d and 4e. Budget and Legislative Update

President Eisler provided an update to the Committee on budget issues. He reported that the budget that will be provided to the Board on July 15 was prepared based on the governor's reduction. He noted that the Vice Presidents have reserved the funds as identified, and positions will not be eliminated.

President Eisler provided additional information regarding the current status of the state in voting on the proposed funding formula, and provided a view of the house and senate's reactions.

5. Hearing of the Public

No one responded to Chair Patera's second invitation to address the Committee.

6. Adjournment

At 10:59 a.m., it was moved by Trustee Cook and supported by Trustee Dazzo that the Committee adjourn.

Approved by



Gregory L. Patera, O.D.
Chair

Submitted by

Karen K. Paine
Recording Secretary